



## **United States Mission to the OSCE**

### **Response to Ambassador Inocencio Arias Chairman of the United Nations Security Council/Counter Terrorism Committee**

As delivered by Ambassador Stephan M. Minikes  
to the Permanent Council, Vienna  
November 18, 2003

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

We welcome Ambassador Arias, Chairman of the CTC, to the Permanent Council today and look forward to a promising partnership between the CTC and the OSCE. We urge increased CTC/OSCE cooperation and believe that this will be an effective tool for terrorism prevention within the OSCE participating states.

The OSCE, with its organizational framework, can be a great resource in helping the UN with its large-scale counter-terrorism efforts, by using its field presences for regional cooperation. These centers can be helpful in monitoring Resolution 1373 compliance within OSCE member states. We also aim to find areas where OSCE can support the work of other counter-terror organizations.

The OSCE structure for judicial training in the field missions provides an excellent opportunity for counter-terrorism cooperation. The OSCE also has considerable experience in assisting participating States with the drafting of legislation. This could be very valuable in the area of anti-terror legislation, including identifying gaps and proposing corrective solution. . The OSCE can evaluate states' own assessment of their anti-terror legislation as well as the implementation process.

We are not suggesting that the OSCE be tasked by the CTC to take on a myriad of new projects, but we do suggest and wish to mention the things that the OSCE is doing or could do to improve Resolution 1373 implementation and note that the CTC can coordinate with the OSCE to fill gaps in its own monitoring and implementation mechanism.

The U.S. is pleased that the UN Office on Drugs and Crime and the OSCE plan to co-host the upcoming Special Counter-Terrorism Committee Meeting in March of 2004 and we see the OSCE and the Organization of American States as exemplary organizations, which should share their organizational and programmatic approaches as models for other regional organizations to consider.

We look forward to the CTC/OSCE meeting in March, and to further cooperating with the CTC in the fight against terrorism in the OSCE area as well as throughout the world.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman